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Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests
903 3rd Street
Kamiah, ID 83536

September 6, 2018

Subject: Crane Point Project

To Whom It May Concern:

Since 1973, the Idaho Conservation League has been Idaho's voice for clean water, clean air and wilderness—values that are the foundation for Idaho's extraordinary quality of life. The Idaho Conservation League works to protect these values through public education, outreach, advocacy and policy development. As Idaho's largest state-based conservation organization, we represent over 25,000 supporters, many of whom have a deep personal interest in protecting human health and the environment.

I am writing on behalf of the Idaho Conservation League to comment on the Crane Point Project. This project appears to be consistent with the Farm Bill CE authorities. However, the Forest Service should map the fire regime condition classes in the project area and overlay the proposed units to demonstrate that they are in fact located in condition classes two or three.

We appreciate that the Forest Service is proposing to decommission user created routes and legacy roads to improve soil and water quality conditions.

With regard to the sixteen miles of roads that will be reconditioned, the scoping notice does not indicate if they are currently open to public motorized travel. The scoping notice also does not indicate if the travel designations will change.

We encourage the Forest Service not to designate any additional routes for public motorized travel. Limiting motorized travel will reduce resource effects, such as water quality degradation, reduction of wildlife security, and the spread of noxious weeds.

If these roads are to be kept for future management purposes, then adequate barriers must be installed to deter illegal motorized travel, and barriers should be monitored regularly for effectiveness.

At this time we do not have any additional comments to offer regarding this project. However, please keep me informed about the status of this project as the planning continues to progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "Brad Smith".

Brad Smith
North Idaho Director